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PA
4/10/02IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

PETER OTTERSBACK ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: 09/926,479 :

FILED: NOVEMBER 9, 2001 :

FOR: ANTIMICROBIAL COPOLYMERS:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 19-22.

Please amend the claims as shown in the marked-up copy following this amendment to read as follows.

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- A
1. (Amended) An antimicrobial copolymer obtained by copolymerizing (component I) one or more aliphatically unsaturated monomers, said one or more aliphatically unsaturated monomers functionalized by means of an ester group and at least singly functionalized by means of a tertiary amino group, with (component II) one or more second aliphatically unsaturated monomers, said one or more second aliphatically unsaturated monomers at least